



John O. Norquist
Mayor

Seth L. Foldy, MD
Commissioner of Health

Bevan K. Baker, CHE
Health Operations Director

Administration



Frank P. Zeidler Municipal Building, 841 North Broadway, 3rd Floor, Milwaukee, WI 53202-3653 phone (414) 286-3521 fax (414) 286-5990
web site: www.milwaukee.gov

For immediate release:
June 17, 2003

Status of Monkeypox Investigation

For the past two weeks the City of Milwaukee Health Department (MHD), Waukesha County Health Department and suburban Milwaukee Health Departments have been working jointly under a unified incident command structure during the intense investigation of monkeypox. MHD continues to collect animal and clinical specimens and is promoting good infection control through risk communication to households, healthcare workers and veterinary technicians. In addition, local health officials continue to work closely with Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The MHD requests that individuals call our hotline (414-286-3606) Monday through Friday 10:00 a.m.- 4:30 p.m. and report any possible exposure to animals or people who may be infected by the monkeypox virus. Further given that health officials are not identifying an increase of cases, we have begun to demobilize the joint unified incident command structure between the MHD and Waukesha County Health Department. "The quick response by local health professionals in working to contain this emerging disease is simply remarkable," said Seth L. Foldy M.D., Health Commissioner.

Media Contact:
Raquel Madrid-Berkel
Health Communications Officer
414-286-3175 (Office)
414-318-5711 (Pager)